



Utah Crop Progress & Conditions

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Issue 8 Week Ending May 4, 2008

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Agricultural Summary

The cold weather continues to slow crop progress around the state. Days suitable for work were 6.5. Livestock conditions continue to do well

Field Crops Summary

Box Elder reports that corn farmers are planting now into dry soil conditions. They are hoping for rain to help germinate the seed. Irrigation water was put into the Bear River Canal system and many producers are irrigating wheat and alfalfa. They are also concerned that the cold water on the fields may shock the crops and set the farmers back. Dry land wheat has made some progress but it is in serious need of significant rainfall. Apricot, sweet cherry, and possibly some peach crops have suffered damage due to frost and cold weather. The sweet cherry crop has been severely damaged because of nighttime frosts. Weber County reports some frost damage to wheat leaf tips, but there shouldn't be any long-lasting damage. Fall planted alfalfa in sandy soils is having some cutworm damage. Utah County reports that fruit has been damaged due to colder conditions. Carbon County incessant winds are sucking up topsoil moisture. Iron County reports that some alfalfa has been damaged because of the cold weather. Emery County reports conditions were ideal for producers to be out in the fields this past week. Farmers are busy planting crops of all types. Irrigation on farmland is in full swing in Emery County and the crops are looking good at this time. Sevier County reports cooler temperatures are slowing down corn planting.

Livestock Summary

Box Elder reports livestock producers are finishing up branding. They are waiting for some warm days and moisture to get the grass on the spring ranges growing. Sheep producers with range herds are worried about lambs since it has been so cold. Losses are expected to be significant this year. Rangeland and pasture grasses are beginning to grow because of warmer daytime temperatures. Carbon County reports calves and lambs are looking good but feed availability is a concern with the slower spring green-up. Uintah County reports that the lack of precipitation has kept ranges and pastures from receiving significant growth. Some producers are turning livestock into pastures early for lack of feed. Emery County reports livestock producers are beginning to bring cattle off of the winter ranges.

Crop Progress for Week Ending May 4, 2008

Item	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5 Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Barley Planted	83	75	93	84
Barley Emerged	55	31	71	59
Oats Planted	66	52	72	72
Oats Emerged	33	15	37	37
Spring Wheat Planted	90	82	97	90
Spring Wheat Emerged	67	44	80	66
Corn Planted	17	7	26	23
Apple Full Bloom	71	70	96	98
Apricots Full Bloom	83	70	100	100
Peach Full Bloom	51	13	100	99
Pears Full Bloom	76	75	91	96
Sweet Cherries Full Bloom	94	77	100	98
Tart Cherries Full Bloom	83	81	100	98

Crop & Livestock Condition for Week Ending May 4, 2008

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Range & Pasture	4	15	45	32	4
Winter Wheat	7	19	32	37	5

Livestock Percent for Week Ending May 4, 2008

Item	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Cows Calved	95	89	95	94
Ewes Lambled on Farm	89	88	94	95
Ewes Lambled on Range	61	37	68	71

Soil Moisture for Week Ending May 4, 2008

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	5	24	71	0
Subsoil	0	20	80	0
Stock water supplies	0	5	95	0